

100 Most Imp. GS Questions for **UPSC CSE** 2021

1. Consider the following statements regarding Copernicus program:

- 1) It is the most ambitious Earth observation programme which will provide accurate, timely and easily accessible information
- 2) It is headed by the European Commission (EC) in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA)

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None of the above

2. Consider the following statement regarding Chang'e 5 mission:

- 1) The aim is to bring back lunar rocks which is the first attempt by any nation to retrieve samples from the moon in four decades.
- 2) The mission is launched by Japan.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. None of the above

3. Consider the following statements regarding 'Halogens':

- 1) They are non-metallic elements that produce sodium salts of similar properties.
- 2) Because of their great reactivity, the free halogen elements are not found in nature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

4. Consider the following statements regarding 'National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme' (NAQUIM):

- 1) It aims to prepare a map of all surface and groundwater sources of water in India.
- 2) It is being implemented by the Central Water Commission.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

5. Recently a device called 'core catcher' was installed in the Kundankalam nuclear plant. In this context, consider the following statements:

- 1) A core catcher is a device that supplements the work of the moderators by further slowing down the speed of neutrons in a nuclear reactor.
- 2) It is made up of materials different from that of the moderator.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

6. Consider the following statements with regard to the National Genomic Grid:

- 1) It is a pan India program to study genes of all patients suffering from all types of genetic diseases.
- 2) The study will utilize the technique of genome sequencing.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

7. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Disinfectants are applied to the living tissues to kill or prevent the growth of microorganisms.
- 2) Two per cent of iodine solution in an alcohol-water mixture is called tincture of iodine.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

8. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Peroxy Benzoyl Nitrate (PBN) is a strong eye irritant produced during photochemical smog.
- 2) Photochemical smog occurs in cold, humid climate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

9. Consider the following statements regarding the latest developments in stem cell research:

- 1) Stem cells can be derived from mammals only.
- 2) Induced pluripotent stem cells are derived from embryonic stem cells.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

10. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Omega-3 fatty acid causes a significant lowering of high-density lipoprotein.
- 2) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has proposed to eliminate trans-fat from food by 2022

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

11. Consider the following statements about Green Economy Initiative (GEI):

- 1). It is an initiative of UNEP to promote sustainable development.
- 2). It was launched in 2018 to realise the SDGs.
- 3). The Economics of Environment and Biodiversity (TEEB) is important pillar of this.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, and 3 only
- D. 2 and 3 only

12. Consider the following statements about Natural Capital:

- 1). It is the stock of renewable resources only that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people.
- 2). Natural Capital approach helps decision makers to understand the complex interactions and interdependencies of natural, social and economic systems.
- 3). Recently NITI Aayog has launched a National Strategy for Augmenting Natural Capital to achieve India's INDCs.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3 only

13. When we spray DDT on crops then it causes the pollution of

- A. Water and air
- B. Soil and air
- C. Soil and water
- D. Crops and air

14. Consider the following statements about Rajaji National Park:

- 1) It is located in Uttarakhand and spread over 4 districts.
- 2) It is the only tiger reserve in Uttarakhand.
- 3) King Cobra, world's longest venomous snake, is found here

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. None of the above

15. India is according high priority to biofuel development. What are the advantages of biofuels?

- 1). Increased biodiversity in agriculture
- 2). Reduction in the use of chemical fertilizers
- 3). Renewable sources of energy

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

16. Consider the following statements about COP 25 of UNFCCC .

- 1) It was hosted and presided by Spain.
- 2) This COP is called as Blue COP due to its focus on conservation of oceans.
- 3) It has specified a binding fixed timeline for nations to realize their INDCs

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

17. Santiago Network sometimes is seen in the news in is aimed at:

- A. Creating a network of countries for cooperation in the field of cyber security
- B. Catalysing the technical assistance required by the vulnerable countries under Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM)
- C. Creating a trade block in South America for enhanced economic integration
- D. Creating a network of South American countries for protecting the coral reefs on the coast of South America

18. SWAS, STAR, AND SAFAL sometimes seen in the news are:

- A. Indigenous varieties of BT Cotton developed to improve cotton yield
- B. Government schemes to give scholarships to students who want to pursue career in space science and agriculture
- C. Green crackers designed to reduce air pollution
- D. None of the above

19. It is one of the India's leading national parks and wildlife getaway. It is bounded by the pristine Kabini River and was declared a tiger reserve in 1999. It is home to the largest concentration of herbivores in Asia, and the largest congregation of Asiatic elephants in the world. Tigers, leopards, sloth bears and dhole (wild dogs) also roam here. A year-round temperate climate and incredible wildlife viewing opportunities make it a true nature lover's paradise.

The above passage highlights the characteristics of which of the following:

- A. Bannerghatta National Park
- B. Bandipur National Park
- C. Nagarhole National Park
- D. Kudremukh National Park

20. Consider the following statements about fly ash:

- 1). Indian coal is characterised by the low ash content and high calorific value
- 2). India currently utilises more than half of the total fly ash generated
- 3). Fly ash can be used a soil improver in the agriculture

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

21. CaTRAT sometimes seen in news is:

- A. A device developed by CSIR to protect food grains from rats at FCI godowns

- B. A new virus strain found in rats which can infect humans
- C. A software developed for counting tigers
- D. None of the above

22. Consider the following statements about Snow Leopard:

- 1). It is classified as Critically Endangered by IUCN and is under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972.
- 2). It is listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. None of the above

23. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

- 1). Minamata Convention: Mercury
- 2). Stockholm Convention: Hazardous chemicals and pesticides
- 3). Basel Convention: Lead

Select the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 2 only

24. The non-point pollution of river water involves discharge of pollutants through

- A. Urban sewage drains
- B. Industrial effluents
- C. Agricultural fields

D. both A . and B .

25. Two different species cannot live for long duration in the same niche or habitats. This Concept is explained by?

- A. Gause's law
- B. Allen's law
- C. Weiseman's law
- D. Competitive Exclusion Principle

26. Kris Gopalakrishnan Committee, recently in news, is related to:

- A. Personal Data Governance Framework
- B. Non-Personal Data (NPD) Governance Framework
- C. Cyber security framework
- D. Crypto-currency regulation

27. Consider the following statements about Jal Jeevan Mission:

- 1). It aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024
- 2). It is a community driven approach
- 3). The fund sharing pattern between centre and mainstream states will be 60:40 respectively

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

28. Consider the following statements about Bharat Net Project:

- 1). It aims to provide a minimum bandwidth of 100 Mbps to all gram panchayats in India.

2). The project is being funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF).

3). It aims to cover all gram panchayats by 2024.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

29. Consider the following statements about National Strategy for Financial Inclusion:

1). It has been released by NITI Aayog.

2). It is for the period 2020-2030.

3). NSFI has been organized and approved by the Financial Stability Development Council.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1, 2, and 3

30. Financial Secrecy Index (FSI) is released by:

- A. Transparency International
- B. International Monetary Fund
- C. RBI
- D. Tax Justice Network (TJN)

31. Utkarsh 2022, sometimes seen in news, is:

- A. A plan launched in slum areas to provide housing facilities to all in slum areas by 2022
- B. A strategy to double farmers' income by 2022

- C. Reserve Bank of India's Medium term Strategy Framework to achieve excellence
D. None of the above

32.What is Bilateral Netting sometimes seen in news?

- A. It is border fencing between USA and Mexico
B. It is a bilateral agreement between 2 neighbour countries to promote sustainable fishing in the common ocean
C. It is a bilateral agreement between 2 countries to remove space debris
D. It is the process of consolidating all swap agreements between two parties into one single, or master agreement.

33.Consider the following statements about Gaganyaan.

1). It is a crewed orbital spacecraft which is expected to carry 7 people into the space

for 30 days.

2). With this, India could become the 5th country to send a man to space.

3). GSLV Mk III, the three-stage heavy lift launch vehicle, will be used to launch Gaganyaan

4). The spacecraft is expected to be placed in a high earth orbit of about 36,000 km.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 3 only
C. 2, 3, and 4 only
D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

34.Consider the following statements about NAVIC:

1). It is designed to provide accurate position information service to users in India as well as the region extending up to 2500 km from its boundary

- 2). It is expected to provide a position accuracy of better than 5 m in the primary service area.
- 3). It has constellation of 7 satellites.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 1 and 3 only
C. 3 only
D. 1, 2, and 3

35. Consider the following statements about UNNATI program:

- 1). It has been launched by ISRO as a capacity building program on Nano satellite development
- 2). It is an initiative to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space (UNISPACE+50)

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. Both 1 and 2
D. Neither 1 nor 2

36. Which of the following is/are achievements of the Extremist?

- 1). They were the first to demand Swaraj as a matter of birth right.
- 2). They had succeeded in getting the expansion of the legislative councils by the act.
- 3). They involved the masses in the freedom struggle and broadened the social base of the National Movement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
B. 2 and 3 only

- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1,2 and 3

37.Consider the following statements regarding Rise of Regional States:

- 1) Successor States: These states came into existence primarily due to the destabilisation of the Mughal control over the provinces.
- 2) Independent Kingdoms: These were the Mughal provinces that turned into states after breaking away from the empire.
- 3) The New States: These were the states set up by the rebels against the Mughal empire.

Which among the following is/are *not* correctly matched?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 3 only

38.Consider the following statements regarding The Government of India Act of 1935:

- 1) Introduction of Dyarchy in the province.
- 2) Extension of the principle of Separate Electorates to Sikhs and Anglo Indians.
- 3) Division of powers into three lists named as Federal, Provincial and Concurrent.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 1,2 and 3

39.With reference to Khilafat Movement, consider the following statements:

1) The chief cause of the Khilafat Movement was the defeat of Turkey in the First World War.

2) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and Mahatma Gandhi were the prominent leaders of this movement.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

40. Consider the following statements regarding recommendations of the Nehru Report:

- 1) Suggest Nineteen fundamental rights.
- 2) Rejection of separate electorates.
- 3) Representation to Muslims in Punjab and Bengal in proportion to their population.
- 4) Responsible government at the Centre and in provinces.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A. 1,2 and 3 only
- B. 2,3 and 4 only
- C. 1,2 and 4 only
- D. 1,2,3 and 4

41. With reference to administration of Chola dynasty, consider the following statements:

- 1) The administrative machinery of Chola comprised of officials called perundanam and sirudanam.
- 2) The land belonging to temples were exempted from tax.
- 3) They controlled the Malabar and Coromandel coasts.

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1,2 and 3
- D. None of the above

42.Consider the following statements regarding Bahmani Kingdom:

- 1) Bahmani kingdom was founded by Alauddin Bahman Shah.
- 2) The chief characteristics of the Bahmani architecture were the construction of tall Raya Gopurams.
- 3) The kingdom was divided into four administrative units called "taraf".

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1,2 and 3

43.With reference to Delhi Sultanate, arrange in chronological order?

- 1) Transfer of Capital from Delhi to Devagiri.
- 2) Creation of Diwan-i-Khairat.
- 3) Introduction of the Persian festival Nauroz in India.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A. 3-1-2
- B. 1-2-3
- C. 3-2-1
- D. 1-3-2

44.Consider the following statements about Krishna Deva Raya:

- 1) He belonged to the Saluva Dynasty.

- 2) Vasco Da Gama landed in Calicut during his reign.
- 3) Eight eminent scholars known as Ashtadiggajas resided at his royal court.

Which of the above statements is/are *incorrect*?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1,2 and 3

45. Consider the following statements with respect to zabt system which was carried by Mughal:

- 1) This system was prevalent in whole India to maintain uniformity.
- 2) Each province was divided into revenue circles with its own schedule of revenue rates for individual crops.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

46. Which of the following statement is/are correct about social life of Harappan civilization?

- 1) Jewelleries like bangles and bracelets were not wore by women.
- 2) Fishing was a regular occupation.
- 3) The use of cosmetics was common.

Select the correct answer using the codes below:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 2 only

47. Consider the following statements regarding Early Vedic Age and Later Vedic Age:

- 1) Iron was used extensively in Later Vedic Period.
- 2) Indra and Agni were prominent god of the Later Vedic period.
- 3) The four divisions of society or the Varna system was established during Early Vedic Age.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

48. What do you understand by the term 'Kutagarashala', used in Ancient India?

- A. A place where the heads of a villages resided.
- B. A place where religious matters were discussed.
- C. A place where the debate between philosophers took place.
- D. A place where the cattle were kept.

49. Consider the following statements with regards to the Mauryan Empire:

- 1) Chandragupta Maurya established the Mauryan dynasty after defeating Mahapadma Nanda.
- 2) The concentration of power in the king characterised the Mauryan rule.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

50. Consider the following statements regarding Sufism:

- 1) All the Sufi lineages or Silsilas were named after their founding fathers.
- 2) The Sufi verses were incorporated in Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book of Sikhs.
- 3) In Islamic text Tasawwuf word is used for Sufism.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1,2 and 3

51.Consider the following statements:

- 1) The process of orogeny has deformation as compared to epiorogeny.
- 2) Orogeny is a process of mountain building while epiorogeny leads to formation of continents..
- 3) Some geomorphic processes derive their energy from the Sun.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

52.Consider the following statements:

- 1) Flaking off of thin layer of rocks from surface due to salt weathering and thermal contraction is called exfoliation.
- 2) It is caused by due to expansion and contraction induced by movement of tectonic plates.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only

- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

53. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Mass movements are caused by action of running water, glaciers, wind, waves and currents.
- 2) Abundant precipitation and torrential rains and scarcity of vegetation favour mass movement.
- 3) Sliding of individual rock masses down the slopes of a hill is also a type of landslide.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

54. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Waves are form of energy rather than a train of water.
- 2) The water particles move in a linear path when wave passes through it.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

55. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Rubber and Cinchona are trees of tropical deciduous forests.
- 2) Acacias and palms are trees of Thorn Forests.
- 3) Keora and Agar are species of trees found in delta regions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

56. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The minimum age to contest the elections of municipality is 21 years
- 2) The questions of disqualifications of contestants contesting the election of municipality are decided by State Election Commission
- 3) The seats of chairpersons in the municipalities are reserved for SCs and STs in proportion to their population

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1 and 3 only

57. With regard to District Planning Committee, consider the following statements:

- 1) It was created by the 73rd amendment act of 1992
- 2) Its composition is decided by the State legislature
- 3) At least 80% members of District Planning Committee are elected members
- 4) It consolidates the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities

Choose the correct option:

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only

D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

58. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Kalgoorlie mines of Africa is famous for gold mines.
- 2) Lamphun and Lampang area of Thailand are major producers of Gold.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

59. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Badarpur, Mashimpur and Patharia regions are associated with crude oil production in India.
- 2) Barmer area of Rajasthan as petroleum as well as natural gas deposits.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

60. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Karnataka accounts for more than 98% of the silk textile production in India.
- 2) Kolar, Mysore and Belgaum are major centers associated with production of Silk cloth in Karnataka.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only

- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

61. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Aluminum industries are power based industries as smelting of aluminum requires power.
- 2) Iron-ore industries are dependent upon weight-gaining raw materials.
- 3) Cotton textile and cottage industries are labour-intensive industries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

62. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The Musi is tributary of the Godavari River.
- 2) Amravati is a tributary of Narmada River.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

63. Consider the following statements:

- 1) Western disturbance is caused due to disturbance in westerlies when they blow from temperate to tropical region.
- 2) Western disturbance is beneficial for Rabi crops grown in Punjab and Haryana.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

64. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The eastern half of the Himalayan ranges are lower than those in the western half.
- 2) Middle Himalaya is made up of metamorphic rock as well as sedimentary rock while outer Himalayas are made up of sedimentary rocks only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

65. Consider the following statements:

- 1) The largest part of the northern plain is formed of older alluvium called 'Bhangar'.
- 2) It is composed of calcareous deposits which are locally called 'Kankar'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

66. Consider the following statements and identify correct ones.

- 1) Income generated by foreigners in a country is taken into consideration while calculating GDP.
- 2) Income generated by nationals of a country outside the country is taken into account while calculating GDP.

Options-

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 & 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

67. Consider the following statements.

- 1) Currencies and coins are fiat money
- 2) Currencies do not have intrinsic value but coins have
- 3) Currencies and coins are legal tenders
- 4) Cheques are legal tenders

Options-

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 & 3 only
- C. 3 & 4 only
- D. 2, 3 & 4 only

68. Consider the following combinations of macroeconomic situations. Identify the most suitable for attracting investment.

- A. Low and stable inflation, High GDP growth, Low CAD and low fiscal deficit
- B. High and volatile inflation, high GDP growth, high CAD and low fiscal deficit
- C. Low and stable inflation, low GDP growth, very high CAD and high fiscal deficit
- D. High and volatile inflation, low GDP growth, low CAD and high fiscal deficit

69. FDI in automatic route does not require approval from the

- 1) Concerned State government
- 2) Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB)

3) RBI

Options-

- A. 2 & 3 only
- B. 1 & 2 only
- C. 1 & 3 only
- D. 1, 2 & 3

70.The Indian exchange rate system is termed as “managed float” because

- A. RBI fixes the exchange rate
- B. RBI fixes the exchange rate and keeps adjusting depending on the economic situation
- C. RBI intervenes in the exchange market to prevent volatility
- D. None of the above

71.Consider the following statements.

- 1) The mortgage bonds issued by the corporations are considered as secured debt issues.
- 2) The type of rating which all the credit rating agencies do not consider is classified as floating rating.

Options-

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 & 2
- D. None of the above

72.Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has jurisdiction over.

- 1) Registering and regulating the working of venture capital funds and collective investment schemes including mutual funds.
- 2) Promoting investors’ education and training of intermediaries of securities market.
- 3) Promoting insider trading in securities.

4) Regulating substantial acquisition of shares and takeover of companies.

Options-

- A. 2 & 3 only
- B. 1, 2 & 4 only
- C. 1 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 & 4 only

73. Which of the following correctly defines Black-box trading, which was in news recently?

- A. Trading illegal commodities
- B. Buying and selling of coal in illegal markets
- C. Use of computer algorithms for High frequency trading
- D. Financial investment activities by shadow banks

74. Consider the following statements regarding 'Sovereign Gold Bonds' scheme.

- 1) These are government securities denominated in grams of gold
- 2) Issued by RBI on behalf of Govt. of India
- 3) Investors will receive fixed interest rate
- 4) If the market price of gold declines, investors will be protected against capital loss

Options-

- A. 1 & 2 only
- B. 2 & 3 only
- C. 1, 2 & 3 only
- D. All of the above

75. With reference to fiscal responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003; consider the following statements.

- 1) The Reserve Bank of India must not subscribe to the primary issues of central government securities.

2) It provides for greater transparency in fiscal operations of the government

3) Actual deficits may exceed the targets only on grounds of national security, calamity, etc.

Options-

- A. 2 & 3 only
- B. 1 & 3 only
- C. 1 & 2 only
- D. 1, 2 & 3

76. Which of the following will help to achieve fiscal consolidation?

- 1) Improving tax base
- 2) Enhancing the resource base of state govt
- 3) Borrowing from domestic markets rather than relying on foreign grants
- 4) Reducing inefficient subsidies

Options-

- A. 1, 2 & 3 only
- B. 1, 2 & 4 only
- C. 2, 3 & 4 only
- D. All of the above

77. Which of the following statements is correct?

- A. GDP deflator calculates inflation using the current production basket while the CPI uses a fixed production basket.
- B. The rate of change of the GDP deflator indicates real GDP growth because it is based on current production in the economy.
- C. Changes in nominal GDP are the same as changes in the CPI because both capture changes in the cost of living.
- D. GDP deflator calculates inflation using the current production basket while the CPI uses a fixed consumption basket.

78. In which of the following ways Import-substitution can be achieved which has been one of the major economic agendas of the government?

- 1) Attracting FII in the country
- 2) Attracting FDI in the country
- 3) Protectionism
- 4) Pushing for innovation and indigenisation

Options-

- A. 1 & 4 only
- B. 1, 2 & 3 only
- C. 2, 3 & 4 only
- D. 1, 3 & 4 only

79. Consider the following statements regarding Dutch disease.

- 1) Hyperinflation resulting from an inflow of foreign exchange
- 2) Impact of loose monetary policies on long-term growth prospects

Options-

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 & 2
- D. None

80. Which of the following statements are correct regarding External Commercial Borrowings?

- 1) ECBs cannot be used for investment in capital market or in real estate.
- 2) An infrastructure project can be fully funded by an ECB.
- 3) A borrower cannot refinance its existing rupee loan through ECB.
- 4) Only private sector can use ECBs to raise resources from abroad.

Options-

- A. 1, 2 & 3 only
- B. 2 & 3 only
- C. 1 & 3 only
- D. All of the above

81. "Zero hour" which is one of the device to keep check on working of executive council in Indian parliamentary system comes.....?

- A. After presidential address
- B. After question hour
- C. After adjournment motion
- D. After no-confidence motion

82. Consider the following statements-

- 1) According to Article 108 of the Indian constitution joint sitting of parliament can be called by the President.
- 2) First joint sitting was held in 1961.
- 3) Joint sitting can be called for constitutional amendment bill.

Which of the above statement/s is/are correct?

- A. Only 1
- B. Only 2 and 3
- C. Only 1 and 2
- D. All of the above

83. Consider the following statements with respect to Article 22 of Indian constitution –

- 1) No one can be arrested without being told the ground of such arrest.
- 2) Arrested person has right to defend himself lawyer of his/her choice
- 3) It is mandatory for police to take arrested person to the nearest magistrate within 48 hrs.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1
- B. only 1 and 2
- C. all 1, 2 and 3
- D. none of the above

84. Consider the following statements regarding preventive detention –

- 1) It is process by which a person can be arrested simply out of an apprehension that he/she is likely to engage in unlawful activity.
- 2) It can be extended only for 6 months.
- 3) It is effective tool to deal with antisocial elements and there is no example of its misuse.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1
- B. only 1 and 2
- C. all 1, 2 and 3
- D. none of the above

85. Consider the following statements –

- 1) There are restrictions on fundamental rights.
- 2) Nature of these restrictions is not mentioned in constitution but come from acts enacted after independence.
- 3) Constituent assembly has never discussed about these restrictions.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1
- B. only 1 and 2
- C. all 1, 2 and 3
- D. none of the above

86.Regarding free and fair trial which of the following rights are provided by constitution –

- 1) No person would be punished for same offence more than once.
- 2) Law can declare any action as illegal retrospectively.
- 3) No person shall be asked to give evidence against himself/herself.

- A. only 1
- B. only 1 and 2
- C. only 1 and 3
- D. all 1, 2 and 3

87.Consider the following statements –

- 1) Right against exploitation protects universally all vulnerable sections being exploited in any form.
- 2) It mentions clearly prohibition on traffic in human being , forced labour and employment of children.
- 3) There is no exception to forced labour prohibition.
- 4) It prohibits child labour under age of 14 years in hazardous occupations only.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 1 and 3
- C. only 2 and 4
- D. only 3 and 4

88.Consider the following statements –

- 1) Preamble to the Indian constitution gives philosophy of constitution and written before constitution.
- 2) It mentions social and economic Justice only.
- 3) Date of commencement of constitution is mentioned in preamble.

4) It is not amendable.

Which of the above is/are incorrect?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 2 and 3
- C. only 3 and 4
- D. all 1, 2, 3 and 4

89. Consider the following statements –

- 1) Independent India was not secular as it was not mentioned in the constitution.
- 2) Democratic and republic words mentioned in preamble show that the supreme power lies with people of India.
- 3) Concept of mentioning social, economic and political justice is invention of Indian constituent assembly.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 2
- B. only 1 and 2
- C. only 2 and 3
- D. all 1, 2 and 3

90. Consider the following statements –

- 1) Directive principles of state policy are non-justiciable, however preamble of the constitution is justiciable.
- 2) Both are important for interpretation of constitution.
- 3) Preamble is not a source of power to the legislature.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 2 and 3
- C. only 1 and 3

D. all 1, 2 and 3

91. Consider the following statements –

- 1) Article 245 to 255 in Part XI of constitution constitutes all legislative, administrative and financial relations of centre and state.
- 2) Centre can legislate on state subject in any situation.
- 3) Centre has no control on state legislation mentioned exclusively in state list.

Which of the above is/are incorrect?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 2
- C. only 1 and 3
- D. all 1, 2 and 3

92. Consider the following statements –

- 1) There are only 3 types of emergency provisions in constitution.
- 2) In normal time Indian polity is federal but during emergencies it becomes unitary.
- 3) National emergency can be proclaimed on the grounds of war, external aggression and internal disturbance.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 2 and 3
- C. only 1 and 3
- D. none of the above

93. Consider the following statements –

- 1) Election commission of India is permanent and independent constitutional body.

- 2) It superintends, directs and controls elections to the parliament, state legislatures only.
- 3) It is not concerned with elections to panchayats and municipal councils.
- 4) It has only administrative powers and functions.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 1 and 3
- C. only 3 and 4
- D. only 2 and 4

94. Consider the following statements –

- 1) Union public service commission (UPSC) is independent constitutional body.
- 2) Chairman and members of UPSC are appointed by Prime Minister.
- 3) Number of members of UPSC can be appointed is mentioned in constitution.
- 4) There is not at all qualification for membership of UPSC.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1
- B. only 1 and 2
- C. only 1, 2 and 3
- D. all 1, 2, 3 and 4

95. Consider following statements –

- 1) State public service commission (SPSC) is not independent constitutional body like UPSC.
- 2) Members and chairman of SPSC are appointed by Governor but can be removed by President only.

3) Governor can determine the conditions of service of chairman and members of commission.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. only 1 and 2
- B. only 2 and 3
- C. only 1 and 3
- D. all 1, 2 and 3

96. Which of the following are the objectives of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC)?

- 1) Providing employment in rural areas.
- 2) Providing salable articles.
- 3) Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit
- 4) Establishing a major khadi industry in every village

Options-

- A. 1, 3 & 4 only
- B. 1, 2 & 4 only
- C. 1, 2 & 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 & 4

97. Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) scheme.

- 1) The scheme's objective is to refinance collateral-free loans given by the lenders to small borrowers.
- 2) Loans up to 10 lakhs to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises are provided under the scheme.
- 3) It has the track record of more than 80% of the borrowers repaying the loan amount, with NPAs as a percentage of MUDRA loans less than 0.5%.

Options-

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- A. 1 & 3 only
- B. 1 & 2 only
- C. 2 & 3 only
- D. 1 only

98. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct regarding Monetary Policy Committee?

- 1) Meeting quorum includes Governor of RBI.
- 2) Monetary Policy Report has to be published after every 2 months.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 & 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

99. Consider the following statements regarding MGNREGA.

- 1) The MGNREGA scheme contains a provision for districts affected by drought or other natural disaster to request an expansion of the scheme to allow for 150 days of work per household.
- 2) The spending for MGNREGA as a percentage of GDP has decreased from 2014-15 to 2019-20.

Options-

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 & 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

100. Consider the following statements about the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA).

- 1) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been formulated for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rainfed areas.
- 2) It promotes location specific Integrated/Composite Farming Systems.

3) Use of land use survey, soil profile study and soil analysis.

Options-

- A. 1 & 2 only
- B. 1 & 3 only
- C. 2 & 3 only
- D. 1, 2 & 3

###ANSWERS###

1. Ans. C.

- It is the most ambitious Earth observation programme which will provide accurate, timely and easily accessible information to improve the management of the environment, understand and mitigate the effects of climate change and ensure civil security. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Earlier it was known as the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security programme (GMES). It is headed by the European Commission (EC) in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA). Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- ESA coordinates the delivery of data from upwards of 30 satellites and the EC on behalf of the European Union, is responsible for the overall initiative, setting requirements and managing the services.

2. Ans. A.

Objectives of Chang'e 5 mission:

- It will bring back lunar rocks which is the first attempt by any nation to retrieve samples from the moon in four decades. It will dig about 2 metres deep into the surface of the Moon and collect 2 KGs of sample. This will help scientists learn about the moon's origins, formation and volcanic activity on its surface. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The mission is launched by China. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

3. Ans. C.

Halogen element, any of the six non-metallic elements that constitute of group 17 (group VIIa) of the periodic table. Halogen elements include Fluorine (F), Chlorine (Cl), Bromine (Br), Iodine (I), Astatine (At), and Tennessine (Ts). Hal mean 'salt' and gen means 'to produce' in Greek. They all produce sodium salts with similar properties, including sodium chloride (table salt), or halite. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Due to their strong reactivity, free halogen elements are not found in nature. In the combined form, fluorine is the most plentiful halogen in the earth's crust. The percentage of halogen in the Earth's crust is 0.06 fluorine, 0.031 chlorine, 0.00016 bromine, and 0.00003 iodine. Astatine and tennessine are not found in nature, as they contain only short-term radioactive isotopes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

4. Ans. D.

Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is implementing 'National Aquifer Mapping and Management Programme' (NAQUIM) for aquifer mapping in the country including in areas which have recorded a high depletion of ground water, in phases. Out of the total mappable area of nearly 25 lakh sq km, so far aquifer maps and management plans have been prepared for an area of nearly 11.24 lakh sq km spread over various parts of the country. As per the ground water resource assessment carried out jointly by CGWB and State ground water departments, 1186 assessment units in the country have been categorized as over-exploited, of which aquifer mapping has been completed in nearly 75% Units. Hence, both the statements are incorrect.

5. Ans. B.

A core catcher - also referred to as a core melt localisation device, or core trap - is designed to catch the molten core of a reactor in the unlikely event of a meltdown, preventing it from escaping the containment building. Kudankulam 3's core catcher is a new generation device, which is adapted to the relevant site conditions and safety requirements, ASE said. It has improved seismic resistance, hydro-dynamic and shock strength and is also equipped with flood protection and simplified installation and assembly technology.

The case of Kudankulam 3's core catcher weighs 147.5 tonnes, and its components include block-assemblies filled with non-metallic materials, a maintenance platform, cantilever truss and bottom plate.

In the past, meltdown accidents have occurred at Chernobyl in Russia in 1986 and at Fukushima in Japan in 2011.

The core catcher is a cone shaped metal structure that weighs about 800 tonnes. The structure is double walled, with the gap between the two walls filled with FAOG (ferric and aluminium oxide granules). The core catcher is filled with a ceramic mixture also including ferric oxide and aluminium oxide, called 'sacrificial material'. The sacrificial material prevents the corium from trickling through and also acts as a cooling mechanism.

Hence, statement 1 is incorrect and statement 2 is correct.

6. Ans. B.

The government has announced the establishment of the National Genomic Grid (NGG), which will study the genomic data of cancer patients from India. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

The grid that will be formed will be in line with the National Cancer Tissue Biobank (NCTB) which is set up at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and will include samples from cancer patients through a network of Pan India Collection Centres.

The purpose is to study the genomic factors that influence cancer and identify the right treatment for the Indian population. This study is performed using the technique of genome sequencing, which is the process of determining the complete DNA sequence of an organism's genome at a single time. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

7. Ans. B.

Antiseptics are applied to the living tissues while disinfectants are applied to inanimate objects such as floors, drainage system. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Tincture of iodine or iodine tincture is an antiseptic, it is also called weak iodine solution. Usually 2–7% elemental iodine, along with potassium iodide or sodium iodide, dissolved in a mixture of ethanol and water. Iodine Tincture contains iodine which is an antiseptic. It is for use on minor wounds, cuts and scrapes. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

8. Ans. A.

Peroxy Benzoyl Nitrate (PBN) is a component of photochemical smog, found to be 200 times as irritating to the eyes as formaldehyde; 0.02 ppm of peroxybenzoyl nitrate in the air causes moderate to severe conjunctival irritation. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

Photochemical smog occurs in warm, dry and sunny climate by the action of sunlight on unsaturated hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

9. Ans. D.

Stem cells can be derived from both mammals and non-mammals. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Induced pluripotent stem cells are derived from adult or mature cells. Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.

10. Ans. B.

Omega-3 fatty acids are derived from food. They can't be manufactured in the body. Fish oil contains two omega-3s called docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA). There's strong evidence that Omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acid increases the level of high-density lipoprotein (HDL) which reduces the risk of a heart attack. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Trans fats are the worst type of fats with known health risks. India is committed to eliminating it from the food supply and is progressing towards its objective of trans fat elimination by 2022; a year ahead of the global target by WHO. As part of our collective vision, FSSAI is committed to reducing the industrially produced trans fatty acids to less than 2% by the year 2022 in a phased manner and is geared up to get freedom from trans fats with the motto 'India@75; Freedom from Trans Fats'. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

11. Ans. B.

As per the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Green Economy is the

one that "improves human well-being and builds social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities." Hence the statement 1 is correct

The statement 2 is incorrect, In 2008, UNEP launched the Green Economy Initiative (GEI), a programme of global research and country level assistance designed to motivate policymakers to support environmental investments.

Pavan Sukhdev's ground-breaking 2008 report on The Economics of Environment and Biodiversity (TEEB), was hosted by UNEP and became the foundation for the Green Economy movement. Hence the statement 3 is correct

12. Ans. B.

Natural Capital is the stock of renewable and non-renewable resources

(e.g. plants, animals, air, water, soils, minerals) that combine to yield a flow of benefits to people. **Hence statement 1 is incorrect.**

It is a way of describing a resource, environment, habitat or ecosystem (sometimes called a 'stock') that underpins ecosystem service benefits (sometimes called a 'flow'). Example- a pollinator habitat can be thought of as natural capital, as are the pollinating insects themselves. A natural capital approach works to illuminate this value and helps decision-makers to understand the complex ways in which natural, social and economic systems interact, impact, and depend upon one another. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

NITI Aayog has not launched any such strategy. **Hence statement 3 is incorrect.**

13. Ans. C.

DDT (dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) is a non-biodegradable pollutant. It is used as insecticide in agriculture. Spraying of DDT causes the pollution of both soil and water. For this reason, the spraying of DDT is banned in advanced countries such as USA.

14. Ans. C.

Rajaji National Park is an Indian national park and tiger reserve that encompasses the Shivaliks, near the foothills of the Himalayas. It is spread over 820 km² and three districts of Uttarakhand: Haridwar, Dehradun and Pauri Garhwal. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

Rajaji became the second tiger reserve in Uttarakhand in 2015, the first being Jim Corbett. So, statement 2 is incorrect.

King Cobra, world's longest venomous snake, is found here. So, statement 3 is correct.

15. Ans. B.

Biofuels may lead to monoculture where farmers will prefer cultivating such crops which can be used in making biofuels. So, statement 1 is incorrect. Fertilizers used in such crops will only increase the fertilizer use. So, statement 2 is incorrect.

Biofuels are renewable source and this is their advantage compared to non-renewable fossil fuels. So, statement 3 is correct.

16. Ans. B.

Recently, Conference of Parties (COP 25) under the auspices of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) had concluded in Madrid (Spain) under the presidency of Chile. Hence statement 1 is incorrect

The statement 2 is correct, The leadership dubbed this year's event as the 'blue COP' owing to the location of the presiding nation, Chile, a nation with around 4,000 miles of coastline, to lay out its intention to focus on the oceans.

It could not specify a binding fixed timeline for nations to realize their INDCs. Hence statement 3 is incorrect.

17. Ans. B.

In 2019, the Santiago Network was created at COP25 in Madrid to further the work of the loss and damage mechanism by catalysing access to, and organizing the availability of, technical assistance to developing countries vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. The Network is designed to enable quick access to planning tools and solutions, organize the exchange of knowledge between organizations, facilitate new partnership arrangements, and convene organizations and experts to leverage additional resources and reduce the duplication of efforts.

18. Ans. C.

In a bid to resolve the crisis of air pollution, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) led by Nagpur-based National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) developed green firecrackers. The

green crackers are named as Safe Water Releaser (SWAS), Safe Thermite Cracker (STAR) and Safe Minimal Aluminium (SAFAL) with 30% reduction in particulate matter on an average using Potassium Nitrate (KNO_3) as oxidant.

19. Ans. C.

Nagarhole is Karnataka's leading national park and wildlife getaway. Bounded by the pristine Kabini River and part of the Nilgiri biosphere, Nagarhole was formerly the hunting grounds of the Maharajah of Mysore and was declared a tiger reserve in 1999. This region is home to the largest concentration of herbivores in Asia, and the largest congregation of Asiatic elephants in the world. Tigers, leopards, sloth bears and dhole (wild dogs) also roam these enchanting forests. A year-round temperate climate and incredible wildlife viewing opportunities make Nagarhole a true nature lover's paradise.

20. Ans. B.

Fly ash is a fine powder, which is the by-product of burning coal in thermal power plants. Indian coal is of low grade with ash content of the order of 30-45 % in comparison to imported coals which have low ash content of the order of 10-15%. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

The fly ash generation in India stands about 217.04 million ton and 77.59% of it was utilized in 2018-19. So, statement 2 is correct.

It improves water holding capacity and soil aeration, thus increasing crop yield. It also contains micronutrients like phosphorus, potassium and calcium. So, statement 3 is correct.

21. Ans. C.

CaTRAT (Camera Trap Data Repository and Analysis Tool) is an image processing software used for organizing and geo-tagging of photo-captures. It is used for counting tigers.

22. Ans. B.

Snow Leopard is classified as Vulnerable by IUCN and is under Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

They are listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). So, statement 2 is correct.

In India, Snow Leopards are found in the Himalayan and trans-Himalayan landscape at an elevation between 3,000 meters and 5,400 m, spanning over 100,000 square km across Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. So, statement 3 is incorrect.

23. Ans. A.

The Basel Convention is for the Control of Trans boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their disposal. It was designed to reduce the movements of hazardous waste between nations. So, statement 3 is incorrect.

The Minamata convention on mercury is an international treaty designed to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic emissions and release of mercury. So, statement 1 is correct.

Stockholm convention is related to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) is an international treaty that aims to eliminate or restrict the production and use of POPs. So, statement 3 is incorrect.

24. Ans. C.

Non-point sources of pollution are often termed 'diffuse' pollution and refer to those inputs and impacts which occur over a wide area and are not easily attributed to a single source. They are often associated with particular land uses, as opposed to individual point source discharges. Non-point source water pollution affects a water body from sources such as polluted runoff from agricultural areas draining into a river, or wind-borne debris blowing out to sea. Urban sewage drains and industrial effluents are point pollution sources of river water.

25. Ans. D.

Competitive exclusion principle, in its simplest form states that complete competitors cannot co-exist. This concept is the cornerstone of ecology.

26. Ans. B.

The Expert Committee on Non-Personal Data Governance Framework set up by the government with the Infosys co-founder, Mr Kris Gopalakrishnan, as the chairman has published its report regarding regulation of data and prevention of monopolistic practices in the country. In its most basic form, non-personal data is any set of data which does not contain personally

identifiable information. This in essence means that no individual or living person can be identified by looking at such data.

27. Ans. C.

JJM aims at providing Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024. So, statement 1 is correct.

It is a Community driven approach: The 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India has placed the subject of drinking water in the 11th Schedule. So, under JJM, Gram Panchayats and local community play the pivotal role. So, statement 2 is correct.

Fund sharing pattern: 90:10 for Himalayan and North-Eastern States; 50:50 for other

States and 100% for UTs.

So, statement 3 is incorrect.

28. Ans. A.

Bharat Net Project aims to provide broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats (GP) through optical fibre network. It aims to provide a minimum bandwidth of 100 Mbps to each of the 2.5 lakhs GPs. It will facilitate delivery of e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, public internet access, G2C, B2B, P2P, B2C etc., weather, agricultural and other services to rural India. So, statement 1 is correct.

It is the new brand name of NOFN (National Optic Fibre Network) which is being implemented in three phases.

First phase – Envisaged to provide one lakh gram panchayats with broadband connectivity by laying underground optic fibre cable lines with deadline of 31st December 2017, which was achieved.

Second Phase – It will provide connectivity to all 2,50,000 Panchayats using an optimal mix of underground fibre, fibre over power-lines, radio and satellite media to be completed by March 2019. So, statement 3 is incorrect.

Third Phase – It will be implemented from 2019 to 2023 during which state-of-the-art, future proof network, including fibre between districts and blocks, with ring topology would be created.

The entire project is being funded by the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), which was set up for improving telecom services in rural and remote areas of the country. So, statement 2 is correct.

29. Ans. C.

Recently, Reserve Bank of India released National Strategy for Financial Inclusion (NSFI) for the period 2019-2024 to set forth the vision in expanding and sustaining the financial inclusion process at the national level through a broad convergence of action. So, statement 1 and 2 are incorrect.

NSFI has been organized and approved by the Financial Stability Development Council. So, statement 3 is correct.

30. Ans. D.

Financial Secrecy Index (FSI) is released by- Tax Justice Network (TJN), an independent international network. FSI ranks jurisdictions according to their secrecy and scale of their offshore financial activities, every two years.

It examines how intensely the country's legal and financial system allows wealthy individuals and criminals to hide and launder money.

Parameters used in the ranking include automatic exchange of information and registration of beneficial ownership.

Cayman Island ranked first, moving up two slots from the 2018 ranking. US continued to retain its second position. India ranks 47 out of 133 countries.

31. Ans. C.

RBI launched 'Utkarsh 2022', the Reserve Bank of India's Medium term Strategy Framework to achieve excellence in the performance of RBI's mandates and strengthening the trust of citizens and other institutions.

It is a three-year road map for medium term objective which is in line with the global central banks' plan to strengthen the regulatory and supervisory mechanism.

32. Ans. D.

Bilateral netting is the process of consolidating all swap agreements between two parties into one single, or master, agreement. As a result, instead of each swap agreement leading to a stream of individual payments by either

party, all of the swaps are netted together so that only one net payment stream is made to one party based on the flows of the combined swaps.

A bilateral netting agreement enables two counterparties in a financial contract to offset claims against each other to determine a single net payment obligation that is due from one counterparty to the other.

33. Ans. B.

Gaganyaan is a crewed orbital spacecraft which is expected to carry three people into the space for seven days. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

With this, India could potentially become the fourth country to send a man to space, after the erstwhile USSR, the US and China. So, statement 2 is incorrect.

The total programme is expected to be complete before 2022.

GSLV Mk III, the three-stage heavy lift launch vehicle, will be used to launch Gaganyaan as it has the necessary payload capability. So, statement 3 is correct.

The spacecraft is expected to be placed in a low earth orbit of 300-400 km. So, statement 4 is incorrect.

34. Ans. C.

RNSS is an independent regional navigation satellite system being developed by India. It is designed to provide accurate position information service to users in India as well as the region extending up to 1500 km from its boundary, which is its primary service area. An Extended Service Area lies between primary service area and area enclosed by the rectangle from Latitude 30 deg South to 50 deg North, Longitude 30 deg East to 130 deg East. So, statement 1 is incorrect.

IRNSS will provide two types of services, namely, Standard Positioning Service (SPS) which is provided to all the users and Restricted Service (RS), which is an encrypted service provided only to the authorised users. The IRNSS System is expected to provide a position accuracy of better than 20 m in the primary service area. So, statement 2 is incorrect. It has constellation of 7 satellites. So, statement 3 is correct.

35. Ans. C.

UNISPACE Nano-Satellite Assembly & Training (UNNATI) program has been launched by ISRO as a capacity building program on Nanosatellite development. Hence the statement 1 is correct.

It is an initiative to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space (UNISPACE+50). Hence the statement 2 is correct.

It would provide opportunities to the participating developing countries to strengthen in assembling, integrating and testing of Nano-satellite.

36. Ans. C.

Achievements of Extremists

The achievements of extremists can be summed up as follows:

- * They were the first to demand Swaraj as a matter of birth right. So, statement 1 is correct.
- * They involved the masses in the freedom struggle and broadened the social base of the National Movement. So, statement 3 is correct.
- * They were the first to organize an all-India political movement, viz. the Swadeshi Movement.

Note: The Moderates had succeeded in getting the expansion of the legislative councils by the Indian Councils Act of 1892. So, statement 2 is incorrect.

37. Ans. A.

Rise of Regional States

The states that emerged as a result of the decline of the Mughal Empire can be classified into the following three broad categories:

- * **Successor States:** These were the Mughal provinces that turned into states after breaking away from the empire. Though they did not challenge the sovereignty of the Mughal ruler, the establishment of virtually independent and hereditary authority by their governors showed the emergence of autonomous polity in these territories. Some examples are Awadh, Bengal and Hyderabad.

* Independent Kingdoms These states came into existence primarily due to the destabilisation of the Mughal control over the provinces, examples being Mysore, Kerala and the Rajput states.

* The New States: These were the states set up by the rebels against the Mughal empire, examples being the Maratha, the Sikh and the Jat states.

38. Ans. B.

The Government of India Act of 1935

The Government of India Act of 1935 was passed on the basis of the report of the Simon Commission, the outcome of the Round Table Conferences and the White Paper issued by the British Government in 1933. This Act contained many important changes over the previous Act of 1919. Following were the salient features of this Act.

- * Provision for the establishment of an All-India Federation at the Centre, consisting of the Provinces of British India and the Princely States. (It did not come into existence since the Princely States refused to give their consent for the union.)
- * Division of powers into three lists: Federal, Provincial and Concurrent. So, statement 3 is correct.
- * Introduction of Dyarchy at the Centre. The Governor-General and his councillors administered the "Reserved subjects". The Council of Ministers were responsible for the "Transferred" subjects. So, statement 1 is incorrect.
- * Abolition of Dyarchy and the introduction of Provincial Autonomy in the provinces. The Governor was made the head of the Provincial Executive but he was expected to run the administration on the advice of the Council of Ministers. Thus, provincial government was entrusted to the elected Ministers. They were responsible to the popularly elected Legislative Assemblies.
- * Provincial Legislatures of Bengal, Madras, Bombay, United Provinces, Bihar and Assam were made bicameral.
- * Extension of the principle of Separate Electorates to Sikhs, Europeans, Indian Christians and Anglo Indians. So, statement 2 is correct.
- * Establishment of a Federal Court at Delhi with a Chief Justice and 6 judges.

39. Ans. C.

Khilafat Movement

The chief cause of the Khilafat Movement was the defeat of Turkey in the First World War. The harsh terms of the Treaty of Sevres (1920) were felt by the Muslims as a great insult to them. The whole movement was based on the Muslim belief that the Caliph (the Sultan of Turkey) was the religious head of the Muslims all over the world. The Muslims in India were upset over the British attitude against Turkey and launched the Khilafat Movement. So, statement 1 is correct.

Mahatma Gandhi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, M.A. Ansari, Saifuddin Kitchlew and the Ali brothers were the prominent leaders of this movement. A Khilafat Committee had been formed and on 19th October 1919, the whole country had observed the Khilafat day. So, statement 1 is correct.

On 23 November, a joint conference of the Hindus and the Muslims had also been held under the chairmanship of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi was particularly interested in bringing the Hindus and the Muslims together to achieve the country's independence. Subsequently, the Khilafat Movement merged with the Non-Cooperation Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920.

40. Ans. C.

The Nehru Report confined itself to British India, as it envisaged the future link-up of British India with the princely states on a federal basis. For the dominion it recommended:

- * Dominion status on lines of self-governing dominions as the form of government desired by Indians (much to the chagrin of younger, militant section—Nehru being prominent among them).

- * Rejection of separate electorates which had been the basis of constitutional reforms so far. So, statement 1 is correct.
; instead, a demand for joint electorates with reservation of seats for Muslims at the Centre and in provinces where they were in minority (and not in those where Muslims were in majority, such as Punjab and Bengal) in proportion to the Muslim population there with right to contest additional seats. So, statement 3 is incorrect.

- * Linguistic provinces.

- * Nineteen fundamental rights including equal rights for women, right to form unions, and universal adult suffrage. So, statement 1 is correct.
- * Responsible government at the Centre and in provinces. So, statement 4 is correct.
- * Full protection to cultural and religious interests of Muslims.
- * Complete dissociation of State from religion.

Note: Representation to Muslims in Punjab and Bengal in proportion to their population was Delhi Proposals of Muslim League.

41. Ans. D.

Chola Administration

The Cholas had an excellent system of administration. The emperor or king was at the top of the administration. They undertook royal tours to increase the efficiency of the administration. There was elaborate administrative machinery comprising various officials called perundanam and sirundanam. So, statement 1 is correct.

The land revenue department was well organized. It was called as puravubarithinaikkalam. All lands were carefully surveyed and classified for assessment of revenue. The residential portion of the village was called ur nattam. These and other lands such as the lands belonging to temples were exempted from tax. Besides land revenue, there were tolls and customs on goods taken from one place to another, various kinds of professional taxes, dues levied on ceremonial occasions like marriages and judicial fines. So, statement 2 is correct.

The Cholas paid special attention to their navy. The naval achievements of the Tamils reached its climax under the Cholas. They controlled the Malabar and Coromandel coasts. In fact, the Bay of Bengal became a Chola lake for some time. So, statement 3 is correct.

42. Ans. C.

Bahmani Kingdom

The founder of the Bahmani kingdom was Alauddin Bahman Shah also known as Hasan Gangu in 1347. Its capital was Gulbarga. There was a total of fourteen Sultans ruling over this kingdom. Among them, Alauddin Bahman

Shah, Muhammad Shah I and Firoz Shah were important. Ahmad Wali Shah shifted the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar. The power of the Bahmani kingdom reached its peak under the rule of Muhammad Shah III.

The Sultanate was divided into four administrative units called "taraf" or provinces. These provinces were Daultabad, Bidar, Berar, and Gulbarga.

The chief characteristics of the Vijayanagar architecture were the construction of tall Raya Gopurams or gateways and the Kalyanamandapam with carved pillars in the temple premises.

43. Ans. A.

Balban (1246-1287) introduced the Persian festival of Nauroz to impress the nobles and people with his wealth and power.

Muhammad bin Tughlaq wanted to make Devagiri his second capital so that he might be able to control South India better. In 1327 he made extensive preparations for the transfer of royal household and the ulemas and Sufis from Delhi to Devagiri, which was renamed as Daulatabad.

A new department called Diwan-i-Khairat was created to take care of orphans and widows during Firoz Tughlaq (1351-1388) administration.

44. Ans. A.

Krishna Deva Raya (1509 – 1530)

The Tuluva dynasty was founded by Vira Narasimha. The greatest of the Vijayanagar rulers, Krishna Deva Raya belonged to the Tuluva dynasty. He possessed great military ability. His imposing personality was accompanied by high intellectual quality.

Though a Vaishnavite, he respected all religions. He was a great patron of literature and art and he was known as Andhra Bhoja. Eight eminent scholars known as Ashtadiggajas were at his royal court.

Tirumal and Immadi Narashima (1491-1505) of Saluva Dynasty ruled over Vijayanagar empire. Vasco Da Gama landed in Calicut in 1498.

45. Ans. B.

ZABT

Akbar's revenue minister, Todar Mal, carried out a careful survey of crop yields, prices and areas cultivated for a 10-year period, 1570-80. On the basis of this data, tax was fixed on each crop in cash. Each province was divided into revenue circles with its own schedule of revenue rates for individual crops. This revenue system was known as zabt.

It was prevalent in those areas where Mughal administrators could survey the land. This was not possible in provinces such as Gujarat and Bengal.

46. Ans. B.

Much evidence is available to understand the social life of the Harappans.

- * The dress of both men and women consisted of two pieces of cloth, one upper garment and the other lower garment.
- * Beads were worn by men and women.
- * Jewelleries such as bangles, bracelets, fillets, girdles, anklets, ear-rings and fingerings were worn by women.
- * These ornaments were made of gold, silver, copper, bronze and semi-precious stones. The use of cosmetics was common.
- * Various household articles made of pottery, stone, shells, ivory and metal have been found at Mohenjodaro. Spindles, needles, combs, fishhooks, knives are made of copper. Children's toys include little clay carts. Marbles, balls and dice were used for games.
- * Fishing was a regular occupation while hunting and bull fighting were other pastimes. There were numerous specimens of weapons of war such as axes, spearheads, daggers, bows, arrows made of copper and bronze.

47. Ans. C.

Iron was used extensively in this period and this enabled the people to clear forests and to bring more land under cultivation. Agriculture became the chief occupation. Improved types of implements were used for cultivation.

Gods of the Early Vedic period like Indra and Agni lost their importance. Prajapathi (the creator), Vishnu (the protector) and Rudra (the destroyer) became prominent during the Later Vedic period.

The four divisions of society (Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaisyas and Sudras) or the Varna system was thoroughly established during the Later Vedic period.

48. Ans. C.

Kutagarashala – literally, a hut with a pointed roof – or in groves where travelling mendicants halted. Debates between philosophers took place here. If a philosopher succeeded in convincing one of his rivals, the followers of the latter also became his disciples. So, support for any particular sect could grow and shrink over time. Buddhist texts, mention as many as 64 sects or schools of thought. Teachers travelled from place to place, trying to convince one another as well as laypersons, about the validity of their philosophy or the way they understood the world.

49. Ans. B.

The accounts by Megasthenes and Arthashastra suggest that Chandragupta Maurya was an autocrat and concentrated the power onto kings' hand. Megasthenes provides details of administration of armed forces under Mauryan.

According to Megasthenes, a board of 30 members were divided into six committees. The six wings of armed forces include – the army, the cavalry, the elephants, the chariots, the navy and transport. But as the original account of Megasthenes is now lost and only its fragments have survived so many historians claim that this source is not beyond dispute. Chandragupta Maurya defeated Dhananand and established Mauryan dynasty.

50. Ans. B.

Sufism is an English word coined in the 19th century. The word used for Sufism in Islamic texts is Tasawwuf. Historians have understood this term in several ways. According to some scholars, it is derived from suf, meaning wool, referring to the coarse woollen clothes worn by Sufis. Others derived from suffa, the platform outside the Prophet's mosque, where a group of close followers assembled to learn about the faith.

Most Sufi lineages were named after a founding figure. However, some like the Chishti order were named after their place of origin, in this case, the town of Chishti in Central Afghanistan.

Wali (plural Auliya) or friend of God was a Sufi who claimed proximity to Allah, acquiring his grace (Barkat) to Perform miracles (Karamat). Sufis such

as Baba Farid composed verses in the local language, which were incorporated in the Guru Granth Sahib.

51. Ans. D.

- Statement 1 is correct: In the process of orogeny, the crust is severely deformed into folds. Due to epeirogeny, there may be simple deformation.
- Statement 2 is correct: Orogeny is a mountain building process whereas epirogeny is continental building process. Through the processes of orogeny, epirogeny, earthquakes and plate tectonics, there can be faulting and fracturing of the crust.
- All these processes cause pressure, volume and temperature (PVT) changes which in turn induce metamorphism of rocks.
- Statement 3 is correct: Geomorphic process consists of endogenic and exogenic processes. The exogenic processes derive their energy from atmosphere determined by the ultimate energy from the sun and also the gradients created by tectonic factors.

52. Ans. A.

- Statement 1 is correct: Unloading, thermal contraction and expansion and salt weathering leads to exfoliation.
- Flaking off of more or less curved sheets of shells from over rocks or bedrock results in smooth and rounded surfaces. Exfoliation is a result but not a process.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Exfoliation can occur due to expansion and contraction induced by temperature changes. Exfoliation domes and tors result due to unloading and thermal expansion respectively.

53. Ans. B.

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Mass movements are aided by gravity and no geomorphic agent like running water, glaciers, wind, waves and currents participate in the process of mass movements.
- That means mass movements do not come under erosion though there is a shift (aided by gravity) of materials from one place to another.

- Statement 2 is correct: Materials over the slopes have their own resistance to disturbing forces and will yield only when force is greater than the shearing resistance of the materials.
- Weak unconsolidated materials, thinly bedded rocks, faults, steeply dipping beds, vertical cliffs or steep slopes, abundant precipitation and torrential rains and scarcity of vegetation etc., favour mass movements.
- Statement 3 is correct: Debris fall is nearly a free fall of earth debris from a vertical or overhanging face. Sliding of individual rock masses down bedding, joint or fault surfaces is rockslide. It is also a type of landslide.

54. Ans. A.

- Statement 1 is correct: Waves are actually the energy, not the water as such, which moves across the ocean surface.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Water particles only travel in a small circle as a wave passes. Wind provides energy to the waves.
- Wind causes waves to travel in the ocean and the energy is released on shorelines.
- The actual motion of the water beneath the waves is circular.
- It indicates that things are carried up and forward as the wave approaches, and down and back as it passes.

55. Ans. B.

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Some of the commercially important trees of Tropical Evergreen Forest are ebony, mahogany, rosewood, rubber and cinchona.
- Teak is the most dominant species while bamboos, sal, shisham, sandalwood, khair, kusum, arjun and mulberry are other commercially important species of tropical deciduous forest.
- Teak, sal, peepal and neem are trees of tropical deciduous forests.
- Statement 2 is correct: The Thorn Forests and Scrubs are found in regions with less than 70 cm of rainfall. The natural vegetation consists of thorny trees and bushes.

- The stems are succulent to conserve water. Leaves are mostly thick and small to minimise evaporation. These forests give way to thorn forests and scrubs in arid areas.
- Acacias, palms, euphorbias and cacti are the main plant species. Trees are scattered and have long roots penetrating deep into the soil in order to get moisture.
- Statement 3 is correct: The mangrove tidal forests are found in the areas of coasts influenced by tides. Mud and silt get accumulated on such coasts. Dense mangroves are the common varieties with roots of the plants submerged under water.
- The deltas of the Ganga, the Mahanadi, the Krishna, the Godavari and the Kaveri are covered by such vegetation. In the Ganga- Brahmaputra delta, sundari trees are found, which provide durable hard timber. Palm, coconut, keora, agar, etc., also grow in some parts of the delta.

56. Ans. A.

To contest election to municipality a person has to be above 21 years of age. The questions of disqualifications of contestants contesting the election of municipality are decided by any authority as determined by the State legislature.

The 74th constitutional amendment act provides for the reservation of seats for the SCs and STs in every municipality in proportion of their population to the total population in the municipal area and reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women. Further, the seats of chairpersons in the municipalities are reserved for SCs and STs in the manner as provided by the state legislature.

57. Ans. B.

Article 243-ZD states that there shall be constituted in every State at the district level a District Planning Committee to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole.

It should be remembered that the 73rd amendment act of 1992 has added Articles 243 to 243 O while the 74th amendment act of 1992 has added Articles 243-P to 243-ZG. Hence, the provision of District Planning

Committee(Article 243-ZD) has been created by the 74th amendment act of 1992.

The composition of District Planning Committee is decided by the State legislature Provided that not less than four-fifths of the total number of members of such Committee shall be elected by, and from amongst, the elected members of the Panchayat at the district level and of the Municipalities in the district in proportion to the ratio between the population of the rural areas and of the urban areas in the district.

58. Ans. D.

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie areas of Western Australia have the largest deposits of gold.
- Australia is also the largest producer of bauxite in the world. It is a leading producer of gold, diamond, iron ore, tin and nickel. It is also rich in copper, lead, zinc and manganese.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Lamphun, Lampang and Phayao provinces in the north of Thailand are the major coal producing centers of Thailand. Most of the coal resources are exhausted due to depletion of coal.

59. Ans. C.

- Statement 1 is correct: In north-East Region, the oldest oilfield in India is located at Digboi in Assam. At present, at least 750 oil wells produce oil in this area.
- Important amongst these are: Nahar Katia, Moran, Hugrijan, Badarpur, Mashimpur, Patharia, Bappa Pang e.t.c
- Major oilfields of Western Region are: (1) Ankleswar, (2) Kalol, (3) Kosamba, (4) Dholka, (5) Mehesena, (6) Lunez, (7) Kadi, (8) Nandesan, (9) Vadesar, (10) Nawagram, and (11) Sanand.
- Bombay High is considered as the largest producer of Indian petroleum.
- Other deposits in India are:
- Cauvery basin,
- Godawari basin,

- Andaman and Nicobar Islands,
- Barmer-Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, etc.
- Statement 2 is correct: India also possesses natural gas which is mostly concentrated in Bombay High, Godavari basin, Barmer area of Rajasthan, etc. Pakistan is also a surplus gas-producing country.
- Barmer has both deposits of natural gas as well as crude oil.

60. Ans. C.

- Statement 1 is correct: India is the third largest exporter of textile in the world after China and European Union.
- Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Punjab are major producer of cotton textile in India.
- About 98 percent of the total production of Silk Textile comes from Karnataka, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir.
- Karnataka is the one of the largest silk producing state in India. It produces only mulberry silk and accounts for over 50 percent of mulberry silk of the country.
- Statement 2 is correct: The main centres of silk cloth manufacturing in South India are Bangalore, Kolar, Mysore and Belgaum. West Bengal produces about 13 per cent of country's total silk. Patna, Gaya and Bhagalpur are the leading silk producing districts in Bihar.

61. Ans. C.

- Statement 1 is correct: Availability of cheap power is another decisive factor in selecting proper location of a secondary sector industrial unit.
- Food processing units need large amount of power. Sugar industry, paper industry and other food processing industries require 24*7 uninterrupted power supplies.
- Further, uninterrupted power supply is required for refrigeration and cold storage facilities.

- Iron and steel industries and aluminium smelting requires a large amount of power. Further, any type of automaton in secondary industries requires a significant amount of power.
- For Example: The electrolysis process used to produce Aluminium requires large quantities of electrical power, cost of which is almost one-third of the total cost involved in processing and obtaining of metal from ore. BALCO, leading aluminium industry in India obtains power from its own built of capacity in Korba as aluminium smelting needs dc power.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: Iron ores readily lose their weight hence iron and steel industries are located near from raw material.
- Statement 3 is correct: Labour cost is one of the main factors of the total cost of production. It influences the total cost of production.
- Labour includes both the semi-skilled and unskilled workers needed for different types of activities.
- Industries requiring highly skilled labour have to select such sites which ensure adequate and regular supply of required labour.
- For Example: Cottage Industries such as incense stick industry; cotton weaving, carpet making, silk weaving etc. are fine examples.
- Availability of skilled and efficient labour is mainly responsible for the development of various industries in a particular region e.g., cotton textile industry of Great Britain developed at Lancashire mainly on account of availability efficient labour.
- Similarly, Indian cotton textile industry flourished mainly due to skilled labourers who possessed traditional skills in cotton weaving.
- Cotton textile industries in Pakistan and Bangladesh and footwear manufacturing industry in Vietnam are other examples of such type of industry.

62. Ans. D.

- Statement 1 is incorrect: Rising from a spring near Mahabaleshwar, the Krishna flows for about 1400 km and reaches the Bay of Bengal.
- The Tungabhadra, the Koyana, the Ghatprabha, the Musi and the Bhima are some of its tributaries.

- Its drainage basin is shared by Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- Statement 2 is incorrect: The Kaveri rises in the Brahmagiri range of the Western Ghats and it reaches the Bay of Bengal in south of Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu.
- The total length of the river is about 760 km. Its main tributaries are Amravati, Bhavani, Hemavati and Kabini. Its basin drains parts of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

63. Ans. C.

- Statement 1 is correct: Western Disturbance is a phenomenon which caused due to shift of mid-latitude westerlies towards tropical area. It is a extra-tropical cyclone which originates from Mediterranean sea.
- When these winds moves towards high temperature regions of tropical area from low temperature regions of mid-latitude region, the disturbance is caused in the flow of westerly winds due temperature difference which is called western disturbance.
- Statement 2 is correct: Precipitation which is received due to phenomenon of Western disturbance aides growth of Rabi Crops in Punjab and Haryana.
- Condition of cloudiness and changed climatic condition also favors growth of Rabi crops.

64. Ans. B.

- Statement 1 is incorrect: The altitudinal variations are greater in the eastern half than those in the western half. The Himalaya consists of three parallel ranges in its longitudinal extent. A number of valleys lie between these ranges.
- Their width varies from 400 Km in Kashmir to 150 Km in Arunachal Pradesh i.e width increases from east to west.
- Statement 2 is correct: The folds of the Great Himalayas are asymmetrical in nature.
- The core of greater of Himalayas is composed of granite. It is perennially snow bound, and a number of glaciers descend from this range.

- Only outer Himalaya is made up of sedimentary rock while middle Himalaya consists of metamorphic rock as well as sedimentary rock.

65. Ans. C.

- Statement 1 is correct: According to the variations in relief features, the Northern plains can be divided into four regions.
- The rivers, after descending from the mountains deposit pebbles in a narrow belt of about 8 to 16 km in width lying parallel to the slopes of the Shiwaliks. It is known as bhabar.
- All the streams disappear in this bhabar belt. South of this belt, the streams and rivers re-emerge and create a wet, swampy and marshy region known as terai.
- The largest part of the northern plain is formed of older alluvium. It lies above the floodplains of the rivers and presents a terrace like feature. This part is known as bhangar.
- Statement 2 is correct: The soil in bhangar region contains calcareous deposits which is locally known as kankar.
- The newer, younger deposits of the floodplains are called khadar. They are renewed almost every year and so are fertile, thus, ideal for intensive agriculture.

66. Ans. A.

- * GDP stands for Gross Domestic Product.
- * GDP is the sum of the final value of all goods and services both the consumption and capital, produced in the economy.
- * Hence while calculating GDP; income generated by foreigners in a country is taken into consideration.
- * Income generated by nationals of a country outside the country is taken into account while calculating GNP.

67. Ans. B.

- * Currencies and coins are fiat money because they derive their value from government order.

* If the coin is melted then it will not fetch the same value in the market and the paper of which the currency note is made of does not have any value in the market.

* Hence, Currency notes and coins are called fiat money and they do not have intrinsic value.

* They are also called legal tenders as they cannot be refused by any citizen of the country for settlement of any kind of transaction.

* Cheques drawn on savings or current accounts however can be refused by anyone as a mode of payment. Hence cheques and demand deposits are not legal tenders.

68. Ans. A.

* High and volatile inflation is not a good investment condition since firms will incur increasing costs and will be unsure about their profitability.

* High CAD is not good because it creates external imbalances and there is always a chance of BoP crisis.

* High fiscal deficit is not preferred since it crowds out private investments by increasing the interest rates in the market.

* High GDP growth is preferred because it gives investors better returns on their investment.

69. Ans. D.

* FDI up to 100% is allowed under the automatic route in many sectors and under this route it is not required to get any prior approval either from the government or RBI.

* Under this route, investors are required to notify the regional office concerned of RBI within 30 days of receipt.

* Under the Government route, approval from DIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry along with the concerned ministry should be taken for FDI under government route.

* FIPB has been abolished.

70. Ans. C.

* The value of Rupee with respect to other currencies for example \$ is decided by the market forces of demand and supply and not regulated by RBI. But when Rupee becomes volatile with respect to \$ then RBI intervenes in the market and buys and sells dollars to contain the volatility of rupee. So the Rupee is called managed/dirt float.

* Floating Exchange Rate can be of two types

→ 1) Free Float and

→ 2) Managed Float

* In those countries where Central Bank doesn't interfere in the exchange rate market are called free float for example US.

* Before 1993, India's exchange rate was "Fixed and adjustable" or Pegged exchange rate.

71. Ans. A.

* Mortgage bonds issued by corporations are considered as secured debt issues.

* Secured debt is debt backed or secured by collateral to reduce the risk associated with lending, such as a mortgage.

* If the borrower defaults on repayment, the bank seizes the house, sells it and uses the proceeds to pay back the debt.

* Type of rating to which all credit rating agencies does not consider is classified as split rating.

* A condition that occurs when the same bond is rated differently by the rating agencies.

72. Ans. B.

* It functions to fulfil the requirements of three categories –

⊞ Issuers – By providing a marketplace in which the issuers can increase their finance.

⊞ Investors – By ensuring safety and supply of precise and accurate information.

∞ Intermediaries – By enabling a competitive professional market for intermediaries.

* SEBI is against insider trading as it is against the transparent trading practices.

73. Ans. C.

* Black Box trading is a term generally used for automated trading systems.

* It is also called Algorithmic Trading or Algo Trading.

* Advanced and complex mathematical models, as well as formulas, are made use of, in the trading systems to make quick decisions and transactions of high speed in the financial markets.

* Black Box Trading is based on utilizing fast computer programs and complex algorithms in order to create and determine trading strategies with the view to optimize the returns.

74. Ans. C.

* Sovereign Gold Bond is government security denominated in grams of gold.

* They are substitutes for holding physical gold.

* Investors have to pay the issue price in cash and the bonds will be redeemed in cash on maturity.

* The Bond is issued by RBI on behalf of Government of India.

* An investor holding gold bonds will get the benefit of price appreciation if the price of physical gold in the market is increasing and interest both but he will lose if the price of gold in the market decreases.

* It can be purchased from Scheduled Commercial Banks, Post office, BSE and NSE.

75. Ans. A.

* The FRBM Act was passed in the year 2003. It is an act of the parliament that set targets for the Government of India to establish financial discipline,

improve the management of public funds, strengthen fiscal prudence and reduce its fiscal deficits.

* The primary objective was the elimination of revenue deficit and bringing down the fiscal deficit.

* The other objectives included:

→ Introduction of a transparent system of fiscal management within the country

→ Ensuring equitable distribution of debt over the years

→ Ensuring fiscal stability in the long run

* It was mandated by the act that the following must be placed along with the Budget documents annually in the Parliament:

→ Macroeconomic Framework Statement

→ Medium Term Fiscal Policy Statement and

→ Fiscal Policy Strategy Statement

76. Ans. B.

* Fiscal Consolidation is referred to as to the policies effected/undertaken by both Governments (Union & State) to lessen/reduce their respective deficits (primarily Fiscal Deficit) and accumulation of debt stock.

* Fiscal consolidation has been designed with judicious mix of rationalisation in the total expenditure of the Government as a percent of GDP and also improvement in gross tax revenues as a percentage of GDP.

* The Government has been keen on and has also taken several measures to improve the fiscal situation in the Government Finances.

* Several measures have been suggested to realize the objective of Fiscal Consolidation such as better and improved Tax Revenue Collections, Prudent Government Spending, Mindful Government Borrowings etc.

77. Ans. D.

* The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) deflator is a measure of general price inflation. It is calculated by dividing nominal GDP by real GDP and then multiplying by 100.

$$\text{* GDP Deflator} = \frac{\text{Nominal GDP}}{\text{Real GDP}} \times 100.$$

* GDP deflator calculates inflation using the current production basket while the CPI uses a fixed consumption basket.

78. Ans. D.

* Import substitution is a strategy under trade policy that abolishes the import of foreign products and encourages for the production in the domestic market.

* The purpose of this policy is to change the economic structure of the country by replacing foreign goods with domestic goods.

* Post-Independence India adopted the policy of import substitution by imposing heavy tariffs on import duty.

* The industrial policy that the country endorsed was linked to the trade policy. In the first seven five year plans, trade in India was distinguished by the inward-looking trade strategy.

* This strategy is known as import substitution with the aim to boost domestic production and shield domestic products from international competition.

79. Ans. D.

* Dutch disease is a shorthand way of describing the paradox which occurs when good news, such as the discovery of large oil reserves, harms a country's broader economy.

* It may begin with a large influx of foreign cash to exploit a newfound resource.

* Symptoms include a rising currency value leading to a drop in exports and a loss of jobs to other countries.

* Dutch disease exhibits the following two chief economic effects:

→ It decreases the price competitiveness of exports of the affected country's manufactured goods.

→ It increases imports.

* Both phenomena result from a higher local currency.

80. Ans. C.

* External Commercial Borrowings are instruments used in India to facilitate the access to foreign money by Indian corporations and PSUs.

* ECBs cannot be used for investment in capital market or in real estate.

* A borrower cannot refinance its existing rupee loan through ECB

* ECBs can be used for all purposes except for-

→ Real estate activities and purchase of land

→ Investing in capital market and equity investment domestically

→ On-lending to other entities for any of the above purposes

→ Activities prohibited as per the foreign direct investment guidelines

81. Ans. B.

There are many devices to keep check on executive council in Indian parliamentary system.

Question hour – three types of questions(starred , unstarred, short notice question) can be asked by members of parliament to executive. First hour of every parliamentary sitting is allocated to question hour.

Zero hour - it is an indian innovation. Not mentioned in rules of procedure. It is an informal device and matter of public importance can be discussed in this with short notice on same day before 10 am. Otherwise it requires 10 days notice. It is in between question hour and actual sitting of parliament.

Adjournment motion – used to discuss urgent matter of public importance by adjourning regular house proceeding.

No-confidence motion - Article 75 of the Constitution says that the council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. It means that the ministry stays in office so long as it enjoys confidence of the majority of the members of the Lok Sabha. In other words, the Lok Sabha can remove the ministry from office by passing a no-confidence motion. The motion needs the support of 50 members to be admitted.

82. Ans. C.

Article 108 provides for joint sitting of parliament so statement 1 is correct.

First joint sitting of parliament was held in 1961 for DOWRY PROHIBITION BILL so statement 2 is correct.

Joint sitting can be called for any issue on which both the houses have different stands except money bill and constitutional amendment bill so statement 3 is incorrect.

Article 108 of the Indian Constitution of India provides for Joint sitting of both the Houses. The joint sitting of the Parliament is called by the President and is presided over by the Speaker or, in his absence, by the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha or in his absence, the Deputy-Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. The Chairman doesn't preside over the joint session at any means/cost. The Secretary-General shall issue summons to each member specifying the time and place for a joint sitting. The duration and adjournment of the joint sitting shall be determined by the Speaker. The quorum to constitute a joint sitting shall be one-tenth of the total number of members of the Houses. The procedures of joint sessions are subject to modifications and variations as the Speaker may consider necessary or appropriate.

83. Ans. B.

According to article 22 of Indian constitution

(1) No person who is arrested shall be detained in custody without being informed, as soon as may be, of the grounds for such arrest nor shall he be denied the right to consult, and to be defended by, a legal practitioner of his choice. Therefore statement 1 and 2 is correct.

(2) Every person who is arrested and detained in custody shall be produced before the nearest magistrate within a period of twenty-four hours of such arrest excluding the time necessary for the journey from the place of arrest to the court of the magistrate and no such person shall be detained in

custody beyond the said period without the authority of a magistrate. Therefore statement 3 is incorrect.

84. Ans. A.

Ordinarily, a person would be arrested after he or she has reportedly committed some offence. However there are exceptions to this. Sometimes a person can be arrested simply out of an apprehension that he or she is likely to engage in unlawful activity and imprisoned for some time without following the above mentioned procedure. This is known as preventive detention. It means that if the government feels that a person can be a threat to law and order or to the peace and security of the nation, it can detain or arrest that person. This preventive detention can be extended only for three months. After three months such a case is brought before an advisory board for review. On the face of it, preventive detention looks like an effective tool in the hands of the government to deal with anti-social elements or subversives. But this provision has often been misused by the government. Many people think that there must be greater safeguards in this law so that it may not be misused against people for reasons other than that which are really justified. In fact, there is a clear tension between right to life and personal liberty and the provision for preventive detention. However, in the case of 'preventive detention', a person can be detained for three months. Article 22(2) states that every person arrested and detained shall be produced before the nearest magistrate within a period of 24 hours (excluding the time necessary for the journey from the place of arrest to the court) and no such person shall be detained beyond this period without the authority of a magistrate. Article 22(3)(b) allows for preventive detention and restriction on personal liberty for reasons of state security and public order. Article 22(4) states that no law providing for preventive detention shall authorise the detention of a person for a longer period than three months unless: an Advisory Board reports sufficient cause for extended detention. The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 has reduced the period of detention without obtaining the opinion of an advisory board from three to two months. However, this provision has not yet been brought into force, hence, the original period of three months still continues.

85. Ans. A.

Fundamental rights are not absolute. Each of these is subjected to restrictions imposed by government. Therefore statement 1 is correct. For example right to freedom of speech and expression is subject to restrictions such as public order, peace and morality etc. Freedom to assemble too is to be exercised peacefully and without arms. The government may impose

restrictions in certain areas declaring the assembly of five or more persons as unlawful. Such powers can be easily misused by the administration. The genuine protest against an act or policy of government by the people may be denied permission. However, if the people are aware and vigilant in regard to their rights and choose to protest against such acts of administration such misuse becomes rare. In the Constituent Assembly itself, some members had expressed their dissatisfaction about restrictions on rights. Also nature of these restrictions have been mentioned in constitution. Article 19 clearly mentioned these restrictions in sub clauses. Nothing in sub-clause (a) of clause (1) of article 19 shall affect the operation of any existing law, or prevent the State from making any law, in so far as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India,] the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence. Therefore statement 2 and 3 are incorrect.

86. Ans. C.

Our Constitution ensures that persons accused of various offences would also get sufficient protection. We often tend to believe that anyone who is charged with some offence is guilty. However, no one is guilty unless the court has found that person guilty of an offence. It is also necessary that a person accused of any crime should get adequate opportunity to defend herself or himself. To ensure a fair trial in courts, the Constitution has provided three rights:

- 1) no person would be punished for the same offence more than once,
- 2) no law shall declare any action as illegal from a backdate, and
- 3) no person shall be asked to give evidence against himself or herself.

Art. 20 of Indian Constitution provides for protection in respect of conviction of offences. In other words, it lays down certain safeguards to the person accused of crimes as stated below:

Ex post facto law (Art. 20(1)).

Double Jeopardy (Art. 20(2)); and

Self-incrimination (Art. 20(3)).

87. Ans. C.

Article 24 Prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc No child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment. They can be employed in non-hazardous and safe occupations.

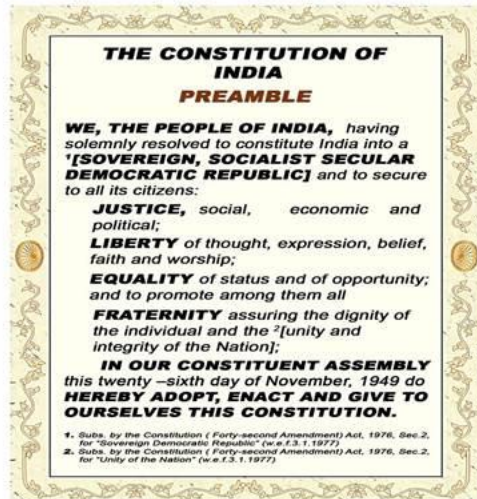
Article 39 of the Constitution states that it is the duty of the state to ensure that the tender age of children is not abused and that they are not forced by economic necessity to enter into fields of work where they are forced to provide labour which is unsuitable to their age and strength.

Clause 1 of Article 23 prohibits the trafficking of human beings, begar any similar form of forced labour. It also states that any contravention of this provision is punishable by the law. It explicitly prohibits Human Trafficking – This refers to the sale and purchase of human beings mostly for the purpose of sexual slavery, forced prostitution or forced labour. Begar – This is a form of forced labour which refers to forcing a person to work for no remuneration. Other forms of forced labour – This includes other forms of forced labour in which the person works for a wage less than the minimum wage. This includes bonded labour wherein a person is forced to work to pay off his debt for inadequate remuneration, prison labour wherein prisoners sent in for rigorous imprisonment are forced to work without even minimum remuneration etc.

Hence, Article 23 has a very wide scope by ensuring that a person is not forced to do anything involuntarily. For instance, It forbids a land-owner to force a landless, poor labourer to render free services. It also forbids forcing a woman or child into prostitution. There is exception to forced labour whenever it is necessary for government to recruit citizens compulsorily for any urgent national needs. Also article 23 has wide scope but it does not universally covers all type of exploitations.

88. Ans. D.

Preamble to the constitution of India gives the philosophy of constitution and reflects the mind of constitution makers. But it is not written before the constitution. It has been written and added to the constitution after whole text of constitution was finalised. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.



It mentions social, economic and political justice. Therefore statement 2 is incorrect.

It contains date of adoption and enactment of constitution (26th Nov 1949) and not the commencement of constitution (26th Jan 1950). Therefore statement 3 is incorrect.

In Kesavanand Bharti case 1973 supreme court held that preamble can be amended as it is part of constitution. And article 368 is applicable to it. Earlier in berubari union case 1960 supreme court held that preamble is not part of constitution so cannot be amended under article 368. Thus it is amendable and statement 4 is also incorrect.

89. Ans. A.

While Article 14 grants equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to all, Article 15 enlarges the concept of secularism to the widest possible extent by prohibiting discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Article 16 (1) guarantees equality of opportunity to all citizens in matters of public employment and reiterates that there would be no discrimination on the basis of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth and residence. Article 25 provides 'Freedom of Conscience', that is, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practise and propagate religion. As per Article 26, every religious group or individual has the right to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes and to manage its own affairs in matters of religion. As per Article 27, the state shall not compel any citizen to pay any taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any

particular religion or religious institution. Article 28 allows educational institutions maintained by different religious groups to impart religious instruction. Article 29 and Article 30 provides cultural and educational rights to the minorities. Article 51A i.e. Fundamental Duties obliges all the citizens to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood and to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture. These provisions show that Indian constitution is secular only thing is that explicit mention of secular nature was made after forty-second constitution Amendment Act of 1976. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.

Democratic and Republic means that India is run by people although not directly but through representative because of vast spread of country. There is elected head of state. Therefore statement 2 is correct.

Ideal of Social, economic and political justice mentioned in preamble is taken from ideals of Russian revolution. Social and economic justices are together known as distributive justice. Therefore statement 3 is incorrect.

90. Ans. B.

Directive principle of state policy and preamble of the constitution both are non-justiciable. That means people cannot move judiciary for their enforcement. Various judgements of supreme court like Kesavanand Bharti 1973 and LIC of India case 1995 preamble was held as integral part of constitution. But never mention it as enforceable. Directive principle of state policy are mentioned in constitution as non-justiciable. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.

Both contains philosophy of constitution and shows the vision of constitution makers. They contain fundamental values political, moral and religious values. Which help in interpretation of various constitutional provisions. Therefore statement 2 is correct.

Preamble is not source of power to the legislature. It also not impose prohibition on power of legislature. Therefore statement 3 is correct.

91. Ans. D.

The relations between centre and state are divides as:

1. Legislative relations
2. Administrative relations
3. Financial relations

Articles 245 to 255 in Part XI of the Constitution deal with the legislative

relations between the Centre and the State. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect.

Though under ordinary circumstances the Central Government does not possess power to legislate on subjects enumerated in the State List, but under certain special conditions the Union Parliament can make laws even on these subjects.

- a) In the National Interest (Art.249)
- b) Under Proclamation of National Emergency (Art.250)
- c) By Agreement between States (Art. 252)
- d) To Implement Treaties (Art. 253)
- e) Under Proclamation of President's Rule (Art.356)

therefore statement 2 is incorrect

Center's control over State Legislation

The Constitution empowers the centre to exercise control over the state's legislature in following ways:

1. The governor can reserve certain types of bills passed by the state legislature for the consideration of the President. The President enjoys absolute veto over them.
2. Bills on certain matters enumerated in the State List can be introduced in the state legislature only with the previous sanction of the President as imposing restrictions on freedom of trade and commerce.
3. The President can direct the states to reserve money bills and other financial bills passed by the state legislature for his consideration during a financial emergency.

Therefore statement 3 is incorrect.

92. Ans. A.

The emergency provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the Constitution of India, from Article 352 to 360. These provisions enable the Central government to meet any abnormal situation effectively. The rationality behind the incorporation is to safeguard the sovereignty, unity, integrity and security of the country, the democratic political system and the Constitution. The Constitution stipulates three types of emergencies- National Emergency, Constitutional Emergency and Financial Emergency. Therefore statement 1 is

correct. Under Article 352, the president can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion. The President can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or armed rebellion or external aggression. When a national emergency is declared on the grounds of 'war' or 'external aggression', it is known as 'External Emergency'. On the other hand, when it is declared on the grounds of 'armed rebellion', it is known as 'Internal Emergency'. This term 'armed rebellion' is inserted from the [44th amendment](#). Before this term it was known as internal disturbance. Therefore statement 3 is incorrect. Also during emergency centre become all powerful and polity become unitary. Therefore statement 2 is correct.

93. Ans. B.

The Election Commission of India is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India. Therefore statement 1 is correct. The body administers elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and State Legislative Assemblies in India, and the offices of the President and Vice President in the country. Part XV of the Indian constitution deals with elections, and establishes a commission for these matters. The Election Commission was established in accordance with the Constitution on 25th January 1950. Article 324 to 329 of the constitution deals with powers, function, tenure, eligibility, etc of the commission and the member. Election Commission of India superintends, directs and controls the entire process of conducting elections to Parliament and Legislature of every State and to the offices of President and Vice-President of India. Therefore statement 2 is incorrect. The most important function of the commission is to decide the election schedules for the conduct of periodic and timely elections, whether general or bye-elections. It prepares electoral roll, issues Electronic Photo Identity Card (EPIC). It decides on the location polling stations, assignment of voters to the polling stations, location of counting centres, arrangements to be made in and around polling stations and counting centres and all allied matters. It grants recognition to political parties & allot election symbols to them along with settling disputes related to it. The Commission also has advisory jurisdiction in the matter of post election disqualification of sitting members of Parliament and State Legislatures. It issues the Model Code of Conduct in election for political parties and candidates so that no one indulges in unfair practice or there is no arbitrary abuse of powers by those in power. It sets limits of campaign expenditure per candidate to all the political parties, and also monitors the same. Thus ECI has administrative, advisory and quasi-judicial functions and power. Therefore statement 4 is incorrect. Election to panchayats and municipal council superintended by state election commissions established

under 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment act. Therefore statement 3 is correct.

94. Ans. A.

Article 315 of the Indian Constitution deals with Public Service

Commissions for the Union and for the States. The UPSC is a constitutional body. Its independence was ensured through constitutional provisions of security of tenure, financial independence (charged on consolidated fund of India). Therefore statement 1 is correct. Chairman and members of UPSC are appointed by President of India and not the Prime minister. Therefore statement 2 is incorrect. Strength of membership of UPSC is not mentioned in constitution it is decided by President. 10 members and a chairman is decided by president. Therefore statement 3 is incorrect. There is mention of some qualifications for membership of UPSC – one half of the members should be such persons who have held office for at least ten years either under central or state government. Therefore statement 4 is incorrect.

95. Ans. B.

Article 315 to 323 of Part XIV of the Indian Constitution deals with provisions relating to the Union Public Service Commission as well as the State Public Service Commission. These Constitutional Provisions include guidelines regarding the appointment, composition, removal, functions, and duties, etc. of the Public Service Commissions. Therefore statement 1 is incorrect

Article	Provisions
Article 315	Provisions for Public Service Commissions for the Union and the States.
Article 316	Provisions regarding appointment and term of office of members.
Article 317	Provisions regarding removal and suspension of a member of a Public Service Commission.
Article 318	Provisions regarding power to make regulations as to conditions of service of members and staff of the Commission.
Article 319	Provisions regarding prohibition as to the holding of offices by members of the Commission on ceasing to be such members.
Article 320	Provisions regarding functions of Public Service Commissions.
Article 321	Provisions regarding power to extend functions of Public Service Commissions.
Article 322	Provisions regarding expenses of Public Service Commissions.
Article 323	Provisions regarding reports of Public Service Commissions.

Article 316 of the Indian Constitution provides for provisions regarding the appointment of the chairman and the members of the U.P.S.C. and S.P.S.C. The Chairman and other members of Union Public Service Commission and State Public Service Commissions are appointed by the President of India and the Governor of the State respectively. Although no specific qualification is mentioned in the Constitution, but it mandates that 50% of the members of U.P.S.C. should be the ones who have held government office for at least 10 years. The President of India and The Governor of State are empowered by the Constitution of India to determine the conditions of service of the Chairman and other members of the Union Public Service Commission and the State Public Service Commission respectively, at the time of their appointment. Therefore statement 3 is correct. The person to be appointed as the members of the Union Public Service Commission and State Public Service Commissions should not hold any office of profit under the central or the state government. The members of both U.P.S.C. and S.P.S.C. can be removed at any time by the president on various grounds. Therefore statement 2 is correct.

96. Ans. C.

* The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament (Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956).

- * It is an apex organization under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with regard to khadi and village industries within India.
- * The Commission has three main objectives which guide its functioning. These are :-
- * The Social Objective – Providing employment in rural areas.
- * The Economic Objective – Providing salable articles.
- * The Wider Objective – Creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit.
- * Establishing a major khadi industry in every village is not a listed objective and may not be economically feasible as well.

97. Ans. B.

- * The PMMY Scheme was launched in April, 2015.
- * The scheme's objective is to refinance collateral-free loans given by the lenders to small borrowers.
- * Banks and MFIs can draw refinance under the MUDRA Scheme after becoming member-lending institutions of MUDRA.
- * Mudra's unique features include a Mudra Card which permits access to Working Capital through ATMs and Card Machines.
- * There are three types of loans under PMMY :-
- * Shishu (up to Rs.50,000)
- * Kishore (from Rs.50,001 to Rs.5 lakh)
- * Tarun (from Rs.500,001 to Rs.10,00,000)

98. Ans. A.

- * Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is a 6 member committee formed after the amendment in the RBI Act, 1934 through the Finance Act, 2016.
- * The basic objective of MPC is to maintain price stability and accelerate the growth rate of the economy.

- * Chairman of Monetary Policy Committee is ex-officio Governor of RBI.
- * Each member of the MPC has one vote, and in the event of an equality of votes, the Governor has a second or casting vote.
- * MPC has meeting quorum of 4 members out of 6 members which includes Governor of RBI.
- * Monetary Policy Report is published after every 6 months while monetary policy statement is published after every 2 months.

99. Ans. A.

- * At least 1.4 lakh poor rural households have already completed their quota of 100 days of work under MGNREGA in the first three months of the year, and will not be eligible for further benefits under the rural employment guarantee scheme for the rest of the year.
- * The MGNREGA scheme contains a provision for districts affected by drought or other natural disaster to request an expansion of the scheme to allow for 150 days of work per household.
- * With almost 60,000 households which have completed 100 days of work, Chhattisgarh has the highest rate among States according to central scheme data, followed by Andhra Pradesh with almost 24,500 households in this category.

100. Ans. D.

- * National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) has been formulated for enhancing agricultural productivity especially in rainfed.
- * Mission Objectives :-
 - * To make agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient by promoting location specific Integrated/Composite Farming Systems;
 - * To conserve natural resources through appropriate soil and moisture conservation measures;
 - * To adopt comprehensive soil health management practices based on soil fertility maps, soil test based application of macro & micro nutrients, judicious use of fertilizers etc.;

- * To optimize utilization of water resources through efficient water management to expand coverage for achieving 'more crop per drop';
- * Creating database on soil resources through land use survey, soil profile study and soil analysis on GIS platform to facilitate adoption of location and soil – specific crop management practices & optimize fertilizer use.

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